A NEW CHARACTERISTIC OF ENGELMANN SPRUCE

In 1907 near Bernice, Mont., the writer observed a specimen of Engelmann spruce (*Picea Engelmanni* Engelm.) with resin vesicles in the bark, which are so typical of the genus Abies. They are not mentioned in any of the descriptions of Engelmann spruce, and the character appears to have been entirely overlooked by botanists. It is therefore desired to direct attention to this noteworthy feature and place it on record. Since 1907 it has been observed at several places in Colorado, and is probably found everywhere on this species of spruce. The vesicles or "blisters" are not so abundant or conspicuous as in the genus Abies. In a few instances they were found to be well developed and closely resembled the balsam blisters. Commonly, even when of large size, they were rendered obscure by being deeper in the bark.

The only genus besides Abies previously described as having these vesicles is Pseudotsuga, in which they are less conspicuous than in Abies. To these two genera must now be added at least one species of the genus Picea, which shows this common character in many individuals, though it is rarely prominent.—E. R. HODSON, *Washington, D. C.*